

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. **(currently amended)** A fibrous nonwoven sheet printed with a given pattern using an electrophotographic process comprising the steps of photoconductively forming an electrostatic latent image on a photosensitive body, electrostatically depositing colored toner (~~charged fine grains~~) on said photosensitive body ~~electrostatic latent image~~ to convert said electrostatic latent image to ~~the~~ a corresponding visible image, and transferring said visible image onto a surface of said fibrous nonwoven sheet, wherein:

said pattern includes a plurality of discrete dots,

said fibrous nonwoven sheet is made of a plurality of thermoplastic synthetic resin fibers and has a given thickness, and

in each of said discrete dots, said toner has ~~having~~ an outer layer ~~slightly permeating said fibrous nonwoven sheet through a surface thereof and~~ deposited around at least one of the fibers lying in a vicinity of said surface of said fibrous nonwoven sheet, and an inner layer deposited around at least one of the fibers immediately underlying said surface ~~and respective pairs of adjacent portions of the toner being not mingled together and present on the fibrous nonwoven sheet in the form of a plurality of independent dots.~~

2. (original) The fibrous nonwoven sheet according to claim 1, wherein said outer layer has a thickness dimension in a range of 1 ~ 100  $\mu\text{m}$ .

3. (currently amended) The fibrous nonwoven sheet according to claim 1, wherein said outer layer exposed on said surface of said fibrous nonwoven sheet has a surface area in a range of 10 ~ 100 ~~μm~~  $\mu\text{m}^2$ .

4. (currently amended) The fibrous nonwoven sheet according to claim 1, wherein a thickness dimension of said toner inclusive of said outer layer and said inner layer is 10  $\mu\text{m}$  or larger and less than ~~[[a]]~~ the thickness of said nonwoven sheet ~~itself~~.

5. (currently amended) ~~The fibrous nonwoven sheet according to claim 1, wherein said fibrous nonwoven sheet is used as at least a liquid impervious backsheet in a~~ A disposable body fluid absorbent wearing article, comprising a liquid-pervious topsheet, said a liquid-impervious backsheet and a liquid-absorbent core disposed between said top and backsheets topsheet and backsheet;

said backsheet comprising a fibrous nonwoven sheet printed with a given pattern using an electrophotographic process comprising the steps of photoconductively forming an electrostatic latent image on a photosensitive body, electrostatically depositing toner on said photosensitive body to convert said electrostatic latent image to a corresponding visible image, and transferring said visible image onto a surface of said fibrous nonwoven sheet,

wherein:

said pattern includes a plurality of discrete dots;

said fibrous nonwoven sheet is made of a plurality of thermoplastic synthetic resin fibers and has a given thickness; and

in each of said discrete dots, said toner has an outer layer deposited around at least one of the fibers lying in a vicinity of said surface of said fibrous nonwoven sheet, and an inner layer deposited around at least one of the fibers immediately underlying said surface.

6. **(new)** A fibrous nonwoven sheet having a given pattern of toner directly, electrophotographically printed on an upper surface of said sheet, wherein:

said pattern includes a plurality of discrete dots,

said fibrous nonwoven sheet includes component fibers, and

in each of said discrete dots, said toner has an upper portion deposited around at least one of the fibers defining said upper surface of said fibrous nonwoven sheet, and a lower portion touching at least one of the fibers underlying said surface, said toner extending continuously in a thickness direction of said sheet from said upper portion to said lower portion.

7. **(new)** The fibrous nonwoven sheet according to claim 6, wherein said upper portion has a thickness, as measured in the thickness direction of said sheet, in a range of 1 ~ 100  $\mu\text{m}$ .

8. **(new)** The fibrous nonwoven sheet according to claim 6, wherein said upper portion exposed on said upper surface of said fibrous nonwoven sheet has a surface area in a range of 10 ~ 100  $\mu\text{m}^2$ .

9. **(new)** The fibrous nonwoven sheet according to claim 6, wherein said upper portion and said lower portion together extend in the thickness direction of said sheet a distance that is 10  $\mu\text{m}$  or larger but less than a thickness of said nonwoven sheet.

10. **(new)** The fibrous nonwoven sheet according to claim 7, wherein said upper portion and said lower portion together extend in the thickness direction of said sheet a distance that is 10  $\mu\text{m}$  or larger but less than a thickness of said nonwoven sheet.

11. **(new)** The fibrous nonwoven sheet according to claim 10, wherein the upper portion of said toner is in direct physical contact with said at least one of the fibers defining said upper surface.

12. **(new)** The fibrous nonwoven sheet according to claim 6, wherein the upper portion of said toner is in direct physical contact with said at least one of the fibers defining said upper surface.